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April 9, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket No. 98N-1038
Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling
of Food

To whom it may concern:

As a Family Practice physician, who counsels patients on diet and personal responsibility, it is my medical opinion that mandatory labeling any and all food treated with radiation should be maintained.

If foods are radiated, a label stating "treated with radiation" plus the international symbol of radiation should be prominently displayed on and all foods, packaged and fresh. If sold bulk or unpackaged, a prominent label with the international symbol for radiation should be prominently displayed adjacent to the product(s).

The effects of radiation upon the health of those handling the radiation process as well as the health of the public consuming radiated foods is not fully known. This will provide the FDA with the opportunity to assess this technology.

Sincerely yours,


Donald L. Newman, M. D.

copy: Senator Abraham
Senator Levin
Representative Broomfield

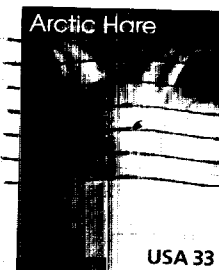
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DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (HFA-305)

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

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